

consider this paragraph such a request and authorization to withdraw the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 from Williams, Morgan & Amerson, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0786/2039.008800RFE.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

AMENDMENT

In the claims:

Cancel claims 18 and 43, and amend claims 1, 2, 14, 15, 27, 28, 36, 40, and 46, to read as follows:

Sub B1  
a  
1. (Amended) An oxygen barrier composition, comprising:  
an oxygen barrier polymer, an oxygen scavenging polymer, and an oxidation catalyst,  
wherein the oxygen barrier polymer is selected from poly(ethylene/vinyl alcohol) (EVOH),  
polyacrylonitrile (PAN), copolymers comprising acrylonitrile, poly(vinylidene dichloride)  
(PVDC), or polyamides not derived from xylylene diamine-based monomers; and the oxygen  
scavenging polymer is a polyamide oligomer or polymer derived at least in part from a xylylene  
diamine-based monomer.

2. (Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the oxygen scavenging polymer  
comprises from about 10 mol% to about 50 mol% units derived from a xylylene diamine-based  
monomer.

Sub B1  
AD  
14. (Amended) A packaging article, comprising:  
(a) at least one oxygen barrier layer comprising an oxygen barrier polymer and an oxygen  
scavenging polymer, wherein the oxygen barrier polymer is selected from poly(ethylene/vinyl  
alcohol) (EVOH), polyacrylonitrile (PAN), copolymers comprising acrylonitrile, poly(vinylidene  
dichloride) (PVDC), or polyamides not derived from xylylene diamine-based monomers; and the  
oxygen scavenging polymer is a polyamide oligomer or polymer derived at least in part from a  
xylylene diamine-based monomer; and

(b) a transition metal salt in the oxygen barrier layer or a layer adjacent to the oxygen barrier layer.

15. (Amended) The packaging article of claim 14, wherein the oxygen scavenging polymer comprises from about 10 mol% to about 50 mol% units derived from a xylylene diamine-based monomer.

27. (Amended) The packaging article of claim 14, further comprising an oxygen barrier layer, wherein the oxygen barrier layer does not comprise a polyamide derived at least in part from a xylylene diamine-based monomer.

28. (Amended) The packaging article of claim 27, wherein the oxygen barrier layer not comprising a polyamide derived at least in part from a xylylene diamine-based monomer comprises poly(ethylene vinyl alcohol) (EVOH), polyacrylonitrile (PAN), a copolymer comprising acrylonitrile, poly(vinylidene dichloride) (PVDC), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polyethylene naphthalate (PEN), or polyamide other than MXD6.

36. (Amended) A method of making an oxygen barrier composition comprising an oxygen barrier polymer, an oxygen scavenging polymer, and an oxidation catalyst, wherein the oxygen barrier polymer is selected from poly(ethylene/vinyl alcohol) (EVOH), polyacrylonitrile (PAN), copolymers comprising acrylonitrile, poly(vinylidene dichloride) (PVDC), or polyamides not derived from xylylene diamine-based monomers; and the oxygen scavenging polymer is a polyamide oligomer or polymer derived at least in part from a xylylene diamine-based monomer:

providing the oxygen barrier polymer, the polyamide derived at least in part from a xylylene diamine-based monomer, and the oxidation catalyst; and

blending the oxygen barrier polymer, the polyamide, and the oxidation catalyst, to form the oxygen barrier composition.

40. (Amended) A method of forming an oxygen barrier layer in a packaging article, comprising: